CLAIMS

Sub B1

1. A method for inhibiting the action of TNF-α for treating nerve disorders in a subject by administering a TNF-α inhibitor comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective dosage of said TNF-α inhibitor wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is CDP-571 (HUMICADE™), D2E7, or CDP-870.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a vertebrate.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the vertebrate is a mammal.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the mammal is a human.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder is a spinal disorder.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder is nerve root injury.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder is caused by herniated discs.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder is sciatica.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder involves pain.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder is nucleus pulposus-induced nerve injury.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein said nerve disorder is spinal cord compression.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered systemically or locally.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered parenterally.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered intramuscularly, intravenously, subcutaneously, orally, or rectally.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered intravenously by injection or infusion.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is administered orally at a dosage of about 20 mg to about 1,500 mg.

17. The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF-α is D2E7 and is administered in a dosage of about 0.1 mg/kg to about 50 mg/kg body weight of said subject.

18. The method of claim 1, wherein the TNF-α is CDP-870 and is administered in a dosage of about 1 mg/kg to about 50 mg/kg body weight of said subject.

19. A method for inhibiting the action of TNF-α for treating nerve disorders in a subject by administering a TNF-α inhibitor comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective dosage of said TNF-α inhibitor wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is a lactoferrin, CT3, ITF-2357, PD-168787, CLX-1100, M-

PGA, NCS-700; PMS-601, RDP-58, TNF-484A, PCM-4, CBP-1011, SR-31747, AGT-1, Solimastat, CH-3697, NR58-3.14.3, RIP-3, Sch-23863, or SH-636.

Sub B3 20. A pharmaceutical composition for treating nerve disorders in a subject comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a TNF-α inhibitor wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is CDP-571 (HUMICADE™), D2E7, or CDP-870, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and wherein said pharmaceutical composition inhibits nerve injury when administered to said subject.

21. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 20, wherein the subject is a vertebrate.

22. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21, wherein the vertebrate is a mammal.

23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 20, wherein the mammal is a human.

24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 20, wherein said monoclonal antibody is D2E7 in a dosage amount of about 0.1 mg/kg to about 50 mg/kg body weight of said subject.

Sub B4 25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 20, wherein said monoclonal antibody CDP-870 in an amount of about 1.0 mg/kg to about 50 mg/kg body weight of said subject.

26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 20, wherein said nerve disorder is selected from the group consisting of a spinal disorder, a nerve root injury, a nerve disorder caused by herniated discs, a nerve disorder involving pain, a nucleus pulposus-induced nerve injury, a spinal cord compression, and

sciatica.

27. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 20, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is formulated for intravenous, intramuscular, oral, rectal, or subcutaneous administration.

28. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 20, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is formulated for parenteral administration.

29. A pharmaceutical composition for treating nerve disorders in a subject comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a TNF-α inhibitor wherein said TNF-α inhibitor is a lactoferrin, CT3, ITF-2357, PD-168787, CLX-1100, M-PGA, NCS-700; PMS-601, RDP-58, TNF-484A, PCM-4, CBP-1011, SR-31747, AGT-1, Solimastat, CH-3697, NR58-3.14.3, RIP-3, Sch-23863, or SH-636, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and wherein said pharmaceutical composition inhibits nerve injury when administered to said subject.